UNBIND HIM, AND LET HIM GO

JOHN 11:44

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Ypsilanti, MI
March 22, 2026 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

OUR MISSION GATHERING TO GROW IN FAITH, LOVE, & SERVICE THROUGH CHRIST

Worship Key
P: Pastor
A: Assisting Ministers
C: Congregation

THE GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,
C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,
C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,
C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
P: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,
C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,
C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
P: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 772

"Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;
Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

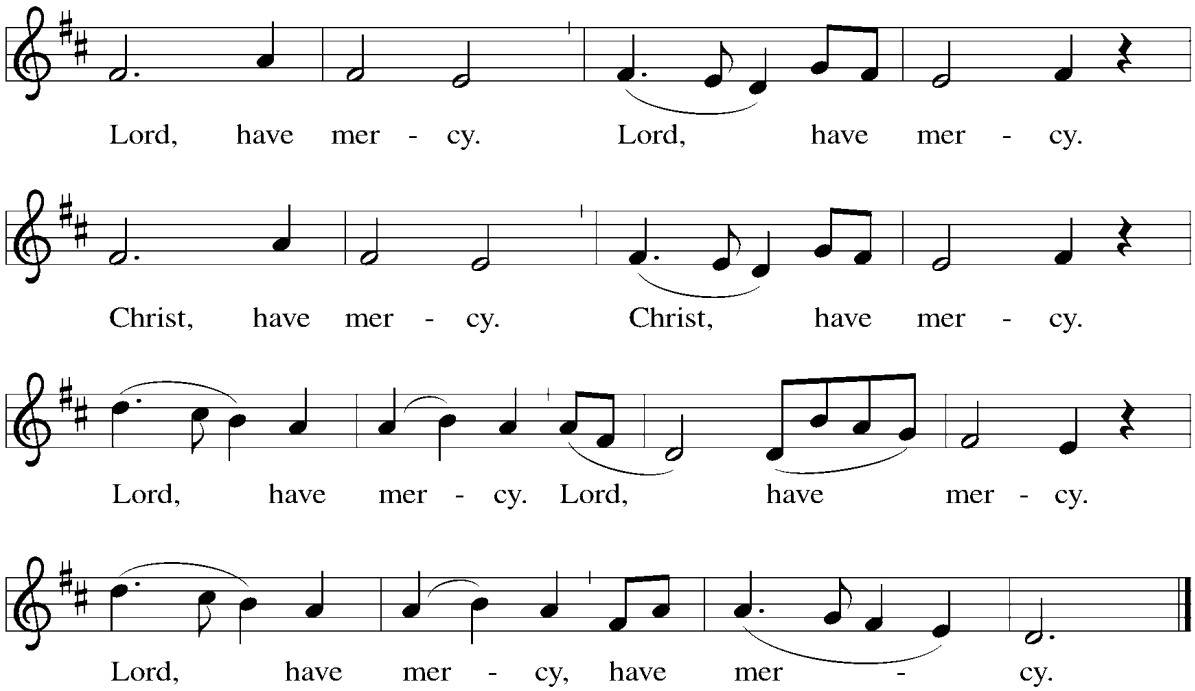
Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE


Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Music: *Deutsche Messe,* Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING - Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD."

A: A reading from Ezekiel.

[1] The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of
the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. [2] He led
me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very
dry. [3] He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you
know." [4] Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them: O dry
bones, hear the word of the LORD. [5] Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will
cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. [6] I will lay sinews on you and will
cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and
you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

[7] So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly
there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. [8] I
looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin
had covered them, but there was no breath in them. [9] Then he said to me,
"Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the
Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain,
that they may live." [10] I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into
them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

[11] Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They
say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off
completely.' [12] Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: I am
going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I
will bring you back to the land of Israel. [13] And you shall know that I am
the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my
people. [14] I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on
your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says
the LORD."

A: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM – Psalm 130

P: [1] Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;
C: [2] O LORD, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.
P: [3] If you were to keep watch over sins, O LORD, who could stand?
C: [4] Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.

P: [5] I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.
C: [6] My soul waits for the Lord
more than those who keep watch for the morning,
more than those who keep watch for the morning.
P: [7] O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;
with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.
C: [8] For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

SECOND READING – Romans 8:6-11

For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.

A: A reading from Romans.

[6] To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. [7] For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, [8] and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

[9] But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. [10] But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. [11] If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

A: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

The proper verse may be sung by a leader. Then the acclamation is repeated.

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GOSPEL – John 11:1-45

Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

P: The Gospel according to John.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[1] Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister
Martha. [2] Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his
feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. [3] So the sisters sent a message to
Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." [4] But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This
illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God
may be glorified through it." [5] Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her
sister and Lazarus, [6] after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days
longer in the place where he was.

[7] Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." [8] The
disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are
you going there again?" [9] Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight?
Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this
world. [10] But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in
them." [11] After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but
I am going there to awaken him." [12] The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has
fallen asleep, he will be all right." [13] Jesus, however, had been speaking about his
death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. [14] Then Jesus told
them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. [15] For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that
you may believe. But let us go to him." [16] Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to
his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

[17] When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four
days. [18] Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, [19] and many of the
Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. [20] When
Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at
home. [21] Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not
have died. [22] But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of
him." [23] Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." [24] Martha said to him, "I
know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." [25] Jesus said to her,
"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die,
will live, [26] and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe
this?" [27] She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of

God, the one coming into the world."

[28] When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." [29] And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. [30] Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. [31] The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. [32] When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." [33] When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. [34] He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." [35] Jesus began to weep. [36] So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" [37] But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

[38] Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. [39] Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." [40] Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" [41] So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. [42] I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." [43] When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" [44] The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

[45] Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME — **Rev. Joshua Rinas**

A special message for children.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTURE

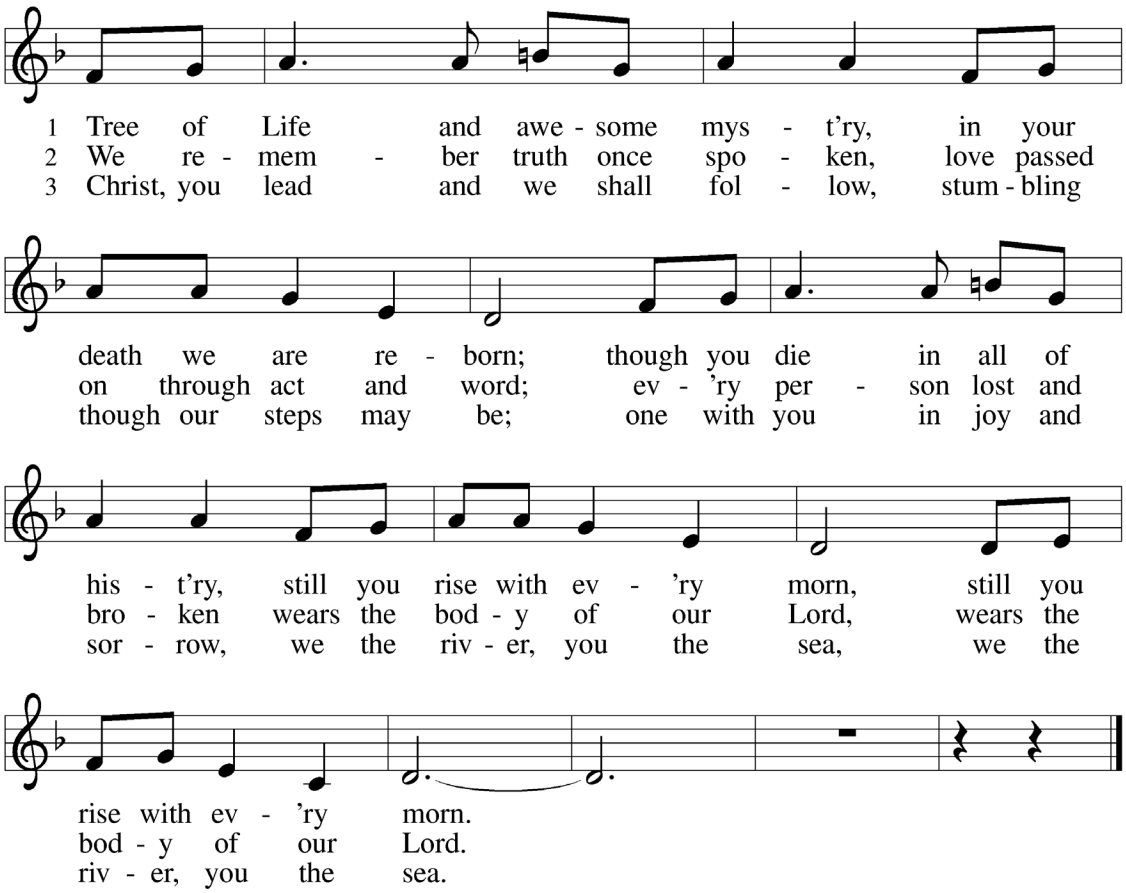
Youngsters leave for the music/activity in the Music/Education room.

SERMON — Rev. Joshua Rinas

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY — ELW 334

"Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"


1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your
2 We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed
3 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling
death we are re - born; though you die in all of
on through act and word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and
though our steps may be; one with you in joy and
his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you
bro - ken wears the bod - y of our Lord, wears the
sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the
rise with ev - 'ry morn.
bod - y of our Lord.
riv - er, you the sea.

One of the following may be sung as a final stanza at the appropriate time.

General
Light of life beyond conceiving,
mighty Spirit of our Lord;
give new strength to our believing,
give us faith to live your word

Lent 1
From the dawning of creation
you have loved us as your own;
stay with us through all temptation,
make us turn to you alone.

Lent 2
In our call to be a blessing,
may we be a blessing true;
may we live and die confessing
Christ as Lord of all we do.

Lent 3
Living Water of salvation,
be the fountain of each soul;
springing up in new creation,
flow in us and make us whole.

Lent 4
Give us eyes to see you clearly;
make us children of your light.
Give us hearts to live more nearly
as your gospel shining bright.

Lent 5
God of all our fear and sorrow,
God who lives beyond our death,
hold us close through each tomorrow,
love as near as every breath.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: Marty Haugen
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APOSTLES' CREED

A: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried; he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

A: We pray for the church. Grant life and peace to all who gather in your name. Breathe into us so that we may share your message of forgiveness, hope, and love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for creation. Renew landscapes that have dried up, prosper the work of those who restore homes and habitats after natural disasters, and sustain places where biodiversity thrives (*local places in nature may be named*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for the nations. Unbind leaders trapped by fear to act boldly for justice, free all who live in places of war and violence, and guide refugees and asylum seekers to safety. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for all people in need. Take away the stone of poverty that weighs down so many. Console any who weep and heal all who are sick especially John, Bob, Cora, John, Ed, Craig, Eva, Barb, Suzanne, Eleanor, Joshua, Susan, Matt, Elizabeth, and Caleb. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for this assembly. Ready the hearts and spirits of all preparing to be baptized. Deepen our wonder at the mystery of your resurrection and life. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: For what else does this congregation pray? Prayers may be said aloud, typed into the live chat box, or silently in your hearts…

Brief Pause for the congregation to respond.

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We offer our thanksgiving for Jonathan Edwards and all people who have died in faith. Give us faith to trust in your power to redeem and save, and bring us up from our graves to life in you. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

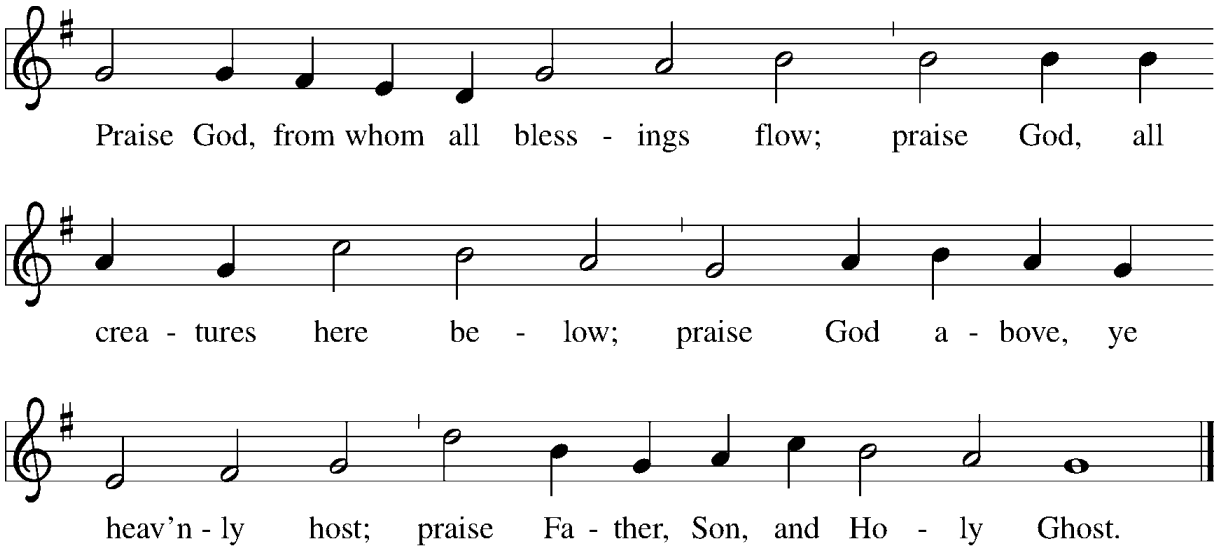
P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

THE MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN – *"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"*


Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

C: Steadfast God, you bless us amid all the changes and chances of life. Grant us servant hearts, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

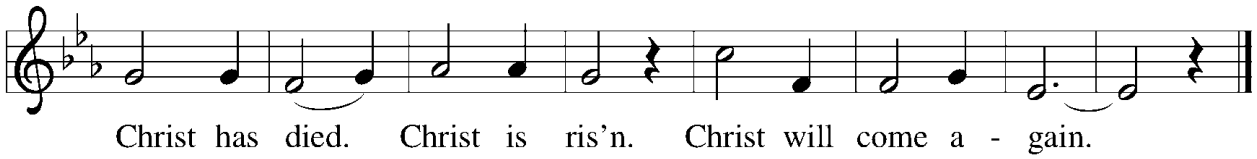
P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



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P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of
Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with
justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

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LORD'S PRAYER

The presiding minister may introduce the Lord's Prayer.

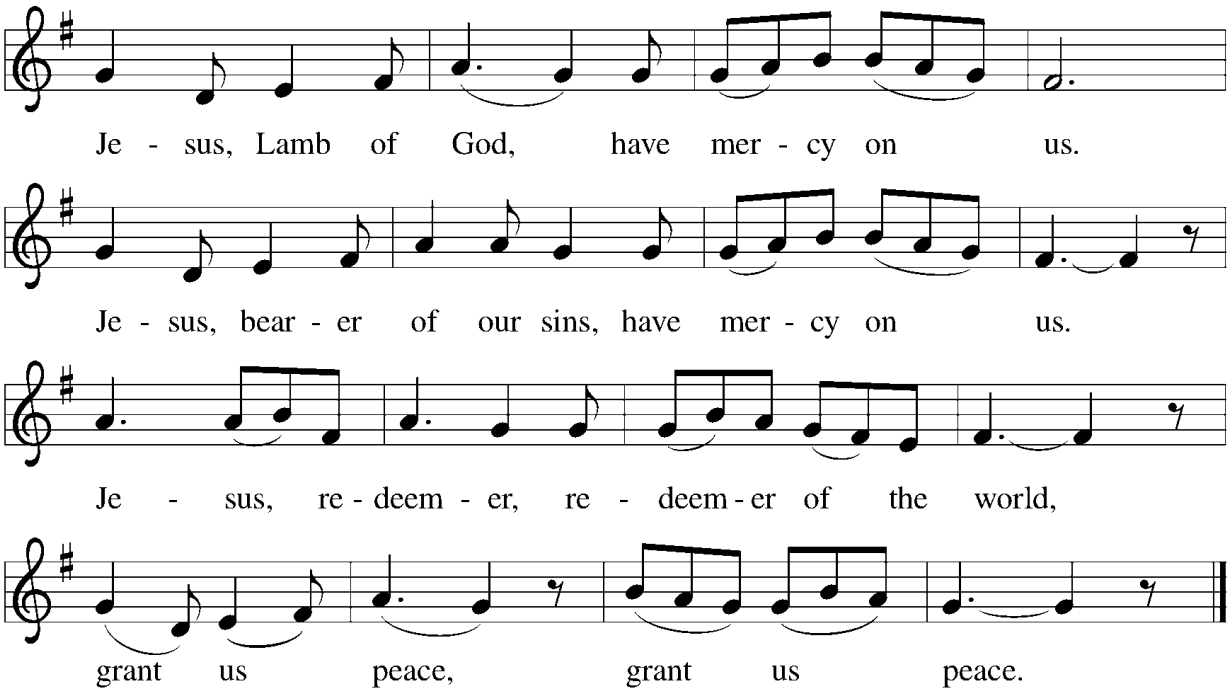
Let us pray together:

**O triune God in heaven above, your blessed name we hallow.
Your kingdom come, your will be done in this world as in heaven;
give bread for each new day begun;
our sins be all forgiven, as we forgive what others do;
in every trial see us through; from evil save us. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

LAMB OF GOD


Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

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COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN - *"The Wayfaring Stranger"*

THE WAYFARING STRANGER
(Roud Index 3339, Earliest known publication 1858)

The origins of this folk song are unclear and it may have multiple influences. The likely use of coded language common in negro spirituals points to African American origins. For example, 'crossing the River Jordan' may refer to crossing the Ohio River on the journey north to freedom. In 1905 Black composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor included "I Am a Poor, Wayfaring Stranger" (under the title "Pilgrim's Song") in a set of piano arrangements of twenty-four melodies composed by African Americans.

According to the book *The Makers of the Sacred Harp*, by David Warren Steel and Richard H. Hulan, the lyrics were published in 1858 in Joseph Bever's Christian Songster, which was a collection of popular hymns and spiritual songs of the time.

During and for several years after the American Civil War, the lyrics were also known as the Libby Prison Hymn. This was because the words had been inscribed by a dying Union soldier incarcerated in Libby Prison, a warehouse converted to a notorious Confederate prison in Richmond, Virginia known for its adverse conditions and high death rate. [Source: Wikipedia adapted & accessed 2026-03-18)

I am a poor wayfaring stranger,
While traveling thro' this world below
There is no sickness, toil, nor danger
In that bright world to which I go.
I'm going there to meet my father,
I'm going there no more to roam;
I am just going over Jordan,
I am just going over home.

I know dark clouds will gather o'er me
I know my pathway's rough and steep;
But golden fields lie out before me
Where weary eyes no more shall weep.
I'm going there to see my mother,
She said she'd meet me when I come;
I am just going over Jordan,
I am just going over home.

I want to sing salvation's story
In concert with the blood-washed band
I want to wear a crown of glory,
When I get home to that good land
I'm going there to meet my classmates
Who passed before me one by one
I am just going over Jordan,
I am just going over home.

I'll soon be free from every trial,
This form will rest beneath the sod
I'll drop the cross of self-denial
And enter in my home with God
I'm going there to see my Savior,
Who shed for me His precious blood
I am just going over Jordan,
I am just going over home.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister leads one of the following or a similar prayer after communion.

A: Let us pray.

C: God of our salvation,
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.
Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the world,
bearing witness to your love for all creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

P: The Lord of peace give you peace at all times and in all ways.
In the name of the Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN - *"Cleanse Me"*

J. Edwin Orr — Traditional Maori Melody

1. Search me, O God, and know my heart to - day; Try me, O
2. I praise Thee, Lord, for cleans - ing me from sin; Ful - fill Thy
3. Lord, take my life and make it whol - ly Thine; Fill my poor
4. O Ho - ly Ghost, re - viv - al comes from Thee; Send a re-
Sav - ior, know my thoughts, I pray. See if there be some wick - ed
Word and make me pure with - in. Fill me with fire where once I
heart with Thy great love di - vine. Take all my will, my pas - sion,
viv - al— start the work in me. Thy Word de - clares Thou wilt sup-
way in me; Cleanse me from ev - ery sin and set me free.
burned with shame; Grant my de - sire to mag - ni - fy Thy name.
self and pride; I now sur - ren - der, Lord— in me a - bide.
ply our need; For bless - ings now, O Lord, I hum - bly plead.

DISMISSAL

A: Go now in peace,
for nothing can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! If this is your first time with us, please add your name and information to our Guest book located in the Narthex (Lobby), we would love to connect with you.

*Hearing assistance devices and cushions are available in the back pew. Please help yourself!
*Children's bulletins available, please see an usher.
*Printed copies of the Newsletter are in the magazine holder in the Narthex.
**Christ in Our Home* devotionals (April - June) can be found in the Narthex.
*Hand Sanitizers can be found in the Narthex and hanging at the end of the pews.

Please remember to wear your Name Tag

It's a help for visitors and folks you may not have seen for a while. If you need a new Name tag, please let Jennifer know.

-Lenten Devotionals Available in Narthex

Although the dates are from 2023, the scripture and reflections remain true. The first day of Lent is Ash Wednesday, February 18th. Pastor provided a bookmark with each devotional for you to keep time within this season of reflection and renewal.

-Wednesday Evening Lenten Suppers and Service

On Wednesdays during Lent, we will meet for a pot-luck supper in the Gathering area at 6:15pm. A Holden Evening Prayer service will follow at 7:00pm.

-More Pre-Easter Yard Cleanup Help needed!

Please join us Saturday March 28 from **9:00am to 11:00 am** to help us finish the cleanup of the outside of the church property. Bring any tools, gloves you may need. All abilities are welcome. Contact Della Diehr or Linda King with questions, suggestions.

-Easter/Birthday Sunday

Join us for a Easter/Birthday Brunch following the service. A sign-up sheet will be up in the Gathering area.

-Emmanuel Directory

We are going to start working on an updated directory for our Emmanuel Families. There will be papers in the Narthex for you to fill out with any changes to your family information for the directory, or you can email the church office. **We will not take changes after April 12th, so please get your information to the office ASAP!**

Food Pantry Needs

Needed for Food Pantry: plastic grocery bags are preferred, but we will use paper grocery bags! Please leave your donation of bags on the Food Pantry shelves or Clothes Closet donation bin in the Gathering area. Thank you!

2026 Altar Flower Sign-up

The 2026 Altar flower sign-up is on the bulletin board outside the office. Once you sign-up for your date, put the form and money in the offering plate or office mailbox.

Financial Progress Report –
Attendance Sunday 3/15/26: 61 (cool)
This past week (March 9 – March 15) we received income of: $4,948
Approved 2026 Budget: $301,796 *Needed Weekly:* $5,804

For the month of February we had:

- *Income:** $19,427
- *Expenses:* $25.027
- *February Balance:* $ (5,600)
  - *Negative Feb balance due to:*
    - Expenses exceeds income.
    - Ministry Growth Fund Feb report included.

Jan 1st through February 28th , we had:

- *Income:** $77,207
- *Expenses:* $50,630
- *YTD Balance:* $26,577
  - *Positive YTD balance due to:*
    - Income exceeds expenses.
    - Some members sending their entire pledge in January.
    - Ministry Growth Fund Feb report included.

Last year at February 28, 2025, our YTD balance was $30,268. Thank you for your support.
*Income will not include the change in value of the Ministry Growth Fund investment until after the 15th of the following month.

Ways to Give: Giving can be done online by clicking here. Or mail checks to: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 201 N. River St., Ypsilanti, MI 48198.

Mobile App: Download the Vanco Payments Mobile app for free from Google Play. In the app, select your fund and amount, enter a payment method and complete the donation.

Assisting Ministers Needed!

Sign up on the sheet outside the office or call the office, Or through sign-up genius. Click here or Scan QR code

THIS WEEK AT EMMANUEL

Sunday, March 22 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

- Handbell Choir 8:45am
- Chancel Choir 9:30am
- **Worship 10:00am**
- Coffee Hour 11:00am – Noon
- Scouts 6:00pm

Tuesday, March 24

- Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 9:30am
- Food Gatherers delivery
- Transition Team Mtg. 6:00pm

Wednesday, March 25

- Clothes Closet 9:00am – 10:30am
- **Bible Study 12:30pm – 2:00pm**
- Food Pantry 3:00pm – 5:00pm
- **Lenten Supper 6:15pm**
- **Holden Evening Prayer Service 7:00pm**
- AA Meeting 8:00pm – 9:00pm

Thursday, March 26

- Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 9:30am
- Refresh Committee 10:30am – 12:00pm
- YCC 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Friday, March 27

- NA Meeting 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Saturday, March 28

- More Pre-Easter Clean up 9:00am – 11:00am

Sunday, March 29 – Palm Sunday

- Handbell Choir 8:45am
- **Worship 10:00am**
- Coffee Hour 11:00am – Noon
- Scouts 6:00pm

The flowers on the altar today are given to the Glory of God and in honor of my son, Ty's 30th birthday on March 20th.
Happy Birthday Ty!
Given by Shane and Sumaia Shingledecker

For those with young children: Emmanuel's "Pray-Ground" is located at the front of the church. We welcome and encourage families with children to use this area; where your children can quietly play with soft toys, books, and do arts and crafts. Please don't worry about noise—worship leaders have microphones!

Prayers requested for: John, Bob, Cora, John, Ed, Craig, Eva, Barb, Suzanne, Eleanor, Joshua, Susan, Matt, Elizabeth, and Caleb.

Links:
Livestream Worship - https://www.youtube.com/@emmanuelypsi
Giving Online - Online donation
Clothes Closet - ClothesCloset@emmanuelypsi.org
Food Pantry - FoodPantry@emmanuelypsi.org

Serving in Worship:
Interim Pastor..... *Rev. Joshua Rinas*
Minister of Worship Music..... *David Meitzler*
Minister of Choral Conducting..... *Jamie Gallupe*
Assisting Minister..... *Fred Hoitash*

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OUR VISION

EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE STRIVE TO MANIFEST CHRIST'S EXAMPLE AS AN INCLUSIVE, VISIBLE, DYNAMIC BODY OF FAITH.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO SERVING THE VULNERABLE AND FOSTERING HOPE.

WE WILL GROW IN ENTHUSIASTIC DISCIPLESHIP AS WE WORSHIP, WELCOME, SERVE, AND STUDY.

You are welcome to connect to our wi-fi network – Emmanuel Guests

Contact us at info@emmanuelypsi.org
Or call us at 734-482-7121
Visit us at www.EmmanuelYpsi.org
Or @emmanuelypsi on Facebook